

# Athlete Whereabouts

## FAQs

### What is Whereabouts?

Whereabouts is information provided by athletes who have been included in one of DFSNZ's testing pools. They allow DFSNZ and other Anti-Doping Organisations to locate them for testing at any time.

### Why are Whereabouts important?

No-advance notice out-of-competition testing is one of the most powerful means of deterrence and detection of doping in sport. Having accurate Whereabouts information is essential to the effectiveness of DFSNZ's anti-doping programme, which aims protect the integrity of New Zealand sport and to protect our clean athletes.

### Who must provide Whereabouts?

DFSNZ has created a Registered Testing Pool (RTP) and a National Testing Pool (NTP) and athletes in either testing pool are required to submit whereabouts.

### How do you know if you're in the RTP or NTP?

DFSNZ will notify you if you have been assigned to the RTP or NTP and you will be advised that you need to start submitting whereabouts.

### How do you get into the RTP or NTP?

The decision by DFSNZ to include you in the RTP or NTP is based on a number of factors. These may include:

- Your current performance level. Athletes who are likely to be attending international competitions, such as the Olympics, Paralympics or World Championships and are medal contenders.
- Physical demands of your sport and the possible performance-enhancing effect of doping
- Available research on doping trends. This includes current and past doping analysis and statistics.
- Athletes who have been recently injured and are returning to competition
- Withdrawal or absence from expected competition
- Sudden improvement in performance
- Sports performance history
- Returning to competition or sport after serving a sanction
- Reliable information from a third party

### What information is required?

As a Registered Testing Pool (RTP) or National Testing Pool (NTP) athlete, you're required to provide and maintain accurate and detailed information about your Whereabouts. This includes:

- A primary residential address;
- Addresses for training, work and all other regular activities (including time-frames for those activities);
- Competition schedules (including dates, locations and accommodation details);
- Travel information (including travel dates, your destination, flight and accommodation details)
- Any temporary or alternative addresses (e.g. when on holiday or your partner's address).

You must provide sufficient information to enable a Doping Control Officer to locate you for testing, without providing any advanced notice.

## 60-Minute Time Slot for RTP Athletes

If you are an RTP athlete, you are also required to specify a 60-minute time-slot, between 5am and 11pm each day, where you will be available for testing at a specified location. Select a time-slot that best fits your schedule and ensure you are available and accessible for the entire 60-minute period each day.

## How do I provide Whereabouts?

Whereabouts information must be filed quarterly (every 3 months) with DFSNZ. You do this online, by logging into the Whereabouts section of DFSNZ's website <https://athlete.drugfreesport.org.nz/> (you will be given a username and password once you are assigned to a testing pool). The dates and deadlines for each quarterly filing are listed below. DFSNZ will send you reminders you in advance of each deadline.

Quarter	Period	Filing Deadline
1	1st July – 30th September	15th June
2	1st October – 31st December	15th September
3	1st January – 30th March	15th December
4	1st April – 30th June	15th March

## What if I go on Holiday?

Going on holiday does not excuse you from your whereabouts responsibilities unfortunately! You must still have accurate whereabouts for every day of the year, no matter what you are doing.

## Can I make last minute changes?

We appreciate that sometimes you may not always know the details of your schedule ahead of time or you may need to update your whereabouts due to unforeseen circumstances. Last minute changes should be a last resort and where possible you should fill out your whereabouts prior to any trips. You can quickly update your whereabouts by using the 'Quick Update' link when on the Homepage of the Whereabouts Website.

## Are there any instructions on how to submit whereabouts?

Yes, DFSNZ has created a how-to document to help users submit their whereabouts. This can be found on the Athlete Whereabouts page of our website. Alternatively, email [whereabouts@drugfreesport.org.nz](mailto:whereabouts@drugfreesport.org.nz) or call 0800 DRUGFREE (378437) if you have any queries.

## Can someone else submit my Whereabouts for me?

You can choose to have a representative, such as a team manager or parent, file your Whereabouts information on your behalf, if you wish. However, you remain accountable for the accuracy and timing of any whereabouts information (and any consequences should the whereabouts information be incorrect or incomplete).

## Who can access my Whereabouts information?

Your Whereabouts information is protected on a secure website and is kept strictly confidential. This information is only shared with WADA and other Anti-Doping Organisations, for the purpose of testing.

## What happens if I don't comply?

It is very important that you file the required Whereabouts information by the deadline specified and that the information you provide is accurate and up-to-date. DFSNZ will send out reminders to help you comply. The consequences if you fail to comply will depend on what testing pool you have been included in.

## Registered Testing Pool Athletes

If you are an RTP athlete, failure to comply with the Whereabouts requirements without good reason, will result in Whereabouts Failures or strikes being recorded against your name. Your National Sport Organisation, International Federation and WADA will be notified of any strike recorded against you.

If you commit three (3) Whereabouts Failures within a 12-month period, this constitutes an anti-doping rule violation and if proven, you could be banned from sport for up to two years. Whereabouts Failures may be any combination of Filing Failures or Missed Tests and can be issued by DFSNZ or your International Federation.

<b>Filing Failure:</b>	<i>You fail to file your quarterly Whereabouts information by the deadline specified; or The Whereabouts information you provide is incomplete or incorrect.</i>
<b>Missed Test:</b>	<i>You are unable to be located for testing during your 60-minute time slot.</i>

## National Testing Pool Athletes

If you are an NTP athlete, you will be issued with a warning letter that will be retained on your file if:

- You fail to file your quarterly Whereabouts information by the deadline specified; or
- The Whereabouts information you provide is found to be incomplete or incorrect.

Two warnings within one quarter or three warnings within 12-months will result in an automatic review of your testing pool status and you may be moved to the RTP, where the Whereabouts requirements are more demanding and the consequences for Whereabouts Failures are more severe. (Note DFSNZ has discretion to review your testing pool status at any time, according to the criteria.)

## Can a Missed Test decision be reviewed?

Yes. All letters regarding a Whereabouts Failure (either a Missed Test or a Filing Failure) will advise you that you can appeal the decision. If you believe that you have not committed a Whereabouts Failure, you are required to provide as much detail as possible to support your claim. DFSNZ will then assess your claim and respond accordingly.

## What happens when I retire?

If you are on DFSNZ's RTP or NTP and you wish to retire from competition, you must notify DFSNZ in writing of your decision to retire.

**Remember, it is your responsibility to ensure that your Whereabouts information is filed on time, is accurate & is up-to-date!**

